#3B D.B. 7-20-98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: DelDuca et al.

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Serial No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: June 9, 1998

Atty. Dkt. No.: PCOA673--1/BLM

For: MODIFIED ATMOSPHERE PACKAGE

FOR CUT OF RAW MEAT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box PATENT APPLICATION Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL

NUMBER: <u>EM340824825US</u>

DATE: June 9, 1998

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SIGNATURE SIGNATURE

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-15.

Please add new claims 16-30 as follows:

16. (New) A modified atmosphere package comprising first and second compartments separated by a partition member, said partition member including a non-barrier portion substantially permeable to oxygen, said first and second compartments being encompassed by an outer wall substantially impermeable to oxygen, said first compartment being substantially free of oxygen solely in response to said first compartment being flushed with one or more gases creating a modified atmosphere within said first compartment, said first compartment containing an oxygen scavenger activated with an oxygen scavenger accelerator to substantially absorb residual oxygen within said first compartment after said first compartment is flushed with said one or more gases, said second compartment containing a retail cut of raw meat.